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Coordinating
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Agriculture
Security Council

**Center For
Agriculture Security**
Secretary of Agriculture Patty Judge



**MULTI-STATE
PARTNERSHIP**
For Agriculture Security



**COUNTY
EMERGENCY
MANAGEMENT
COORDINATORS**

DPH
DPS
DNR
DOT

DPD
Local Law / Fire
ISU Extension
Community Orgs.

Iowa Veterinary Rapid Response Team



Patty Judge
Secretary of Agriculture

Center for Agriculture Security

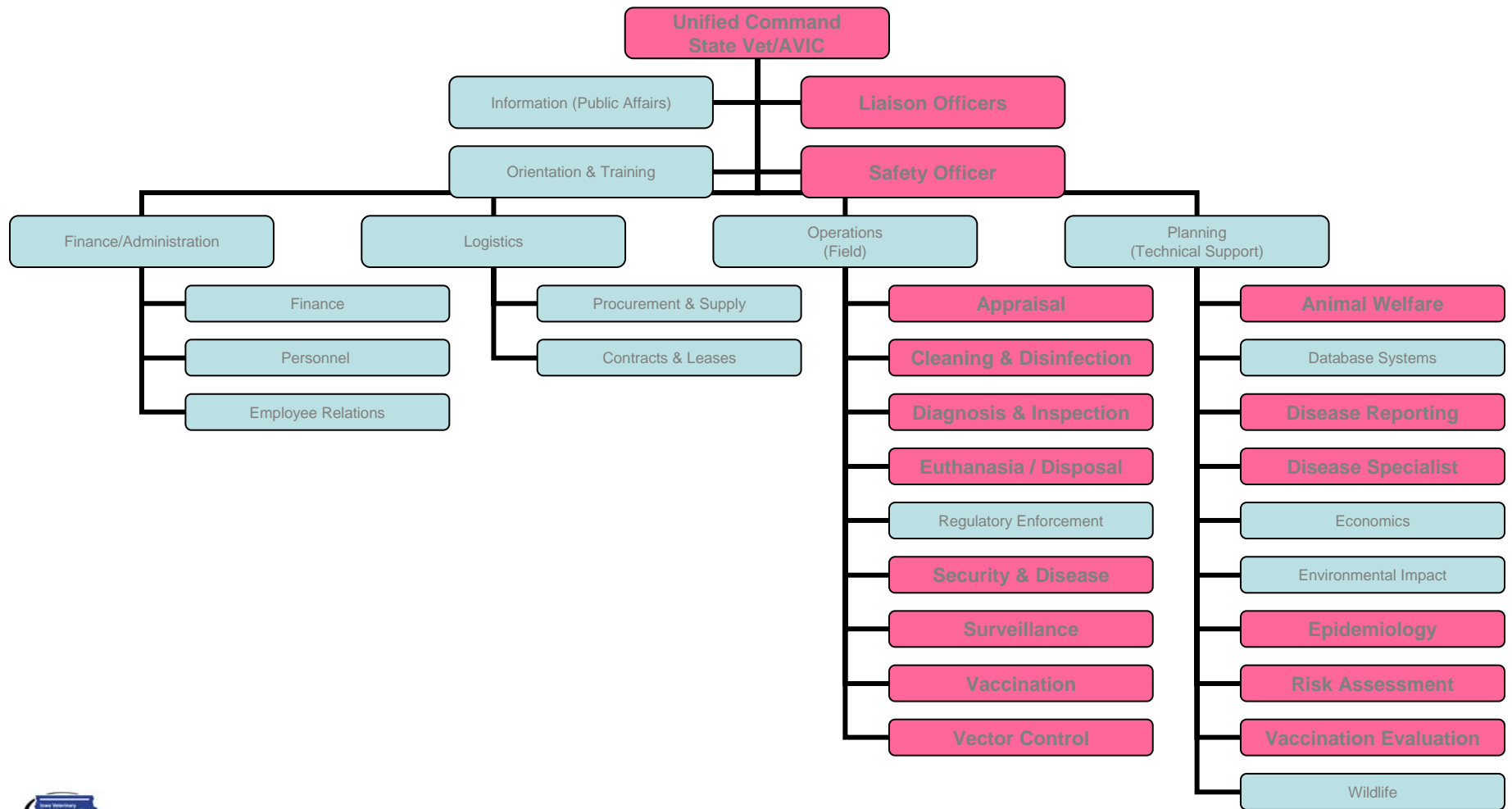
Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship

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Incident Command System

Animal Health Organizational Structure



Legislative Oversight Committee
Tuesday, January 31, 2006

Center for Agriculture Security
Iowa Veterinary Rapid Response Team

- Security of Agriculture and Food Sector
 - Listed as one of the nation's top 15 critical assets
 - Difficult to quantify – systems vs. traditional infrastructure
 - Preparedness requires planning / coordination with multiple agencies
 - IDALS is lead agency for high consequence animal, crop, or dairy production incidents
- Secretary Judge started planning process for agriculture emergencies
 - Focus -- foreign animal disease response
 - Veterinary Rapid Response Team formed in 2004
 - Multi-State Partnership formed
 - Secretary chairs agriculture security committee of NASDA
 - Member of National Infrastructure Protection Plan workgroup
 - Center for Agriculture Security formed August, 2005
 - Coordinates ag sector response for animal, dairy, crop and fertilizer/pesticide emergencies
- IVRRT – Backbone of Iowa's response to high consequence livestock disease
 - Over 280 veterinarians and animal health practitioners
 - Training published by ISU's Center for Food Security and Public Health
 - Members familiar with deployment plans for FMD and AI
 - Incident Command and NIMS certification underway
 - Legislature approved indemnity / benefits in 2005
 - Ongoing training necessary to maintain readiness
- Federal support – waning
 - 2004 grant (2004-05): 2-years, \$500m Homeland Security ODP grant
 - 2005 grant (current): 16 months -- 75% less than '04 (\$130,000)
 - 2006 grant (April '07-'09): 2-year competitive – total federal dollars to state / locals cut from \$16 million to \$4.1 million

Fusion Center partner – coordinates local intelligence

Agroville – training for response agencies, communities, industries and producers

Established One-Call Agriculture Emergency Number (local and state response agencies)

Assisted in developing national ag response curriculum – Kirkwood, LSU, UC Davis

Website: www.agriculture.state.ia.us/agsecurity.htm

Iowa Veterinary Rapid Response Team

Newsletter

DECEMBER 30, 2005

VOLUME I ISSUE 4

IVRRT helps Katrina animals

It was a Friday morning in September when State Veterinarian Dr. John Schiltz took a conference call from Homeland Security and Des Moines Police. A plane of evacuees from New Orleans was on its way to Des Moines with companion animals. Arrival time: 12 noon. Prep time: 3 hours.

Secretary Patty Judge and Dr. Schiltz deployed members of the Iowa Veterinary Rapid Response Team to assist the Des Moines Animal Rescue League. Here was an opportunity to test our deployment plans.

The call went out for IVRRT members to help screen and clean animals. Faculty and students at Iowa State University, IVMA president Dr. Tom Johnson, and several area veterinarians volunteered on short notice to assist. A clinic was set up in the hog barn at the State Fairgrounds.

Members had a rare chance to work with other response agencies and the incident command structure. The process of notifying and calling up IVRRT members was an invaluable experience in a low pressure, non-emergency setting.

One month later, Katrina again gave IVRRT an opportunity to exercise deployment.

A truckload of dogs from the Lamar Dixon animal shelter at Louisiana State University came to Iowa, making stops in Cedar Rapids and Des Moines. IVRRT members were again called upon to screen and treat these animals before they were relocated to various shelters across the state.

IVRRT training has focused



Agriculture Secretary Patty Judge (left) unloads dogs at the Animal Rescue League.

on large animal, foreign animal disease. Hurricane Katrina helped us realize that, even in Iowa, we should be prepared for companion animal incidents caused by natural disasters.

Our sincere thanks to Tom Colvin of ARL, Dr. Tom Johnson of the Iowa Veterinary Medical Association, and to all partners who assisted with the Katrina animal relief projects.

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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- We extend our deepest sympathy to the family of Dr. Bruce Van Zee following his tragic death this fall.
- **PLEASE NOTE:** June 30 is our deadline for completing the ICS / NIMS self-study certification (see articles on pages 1 and 3).
- A package with curriculum and Training I DVD will be mailed soon. See "Care package," page 3.
- For more information or assistance with any IVRRT program or training issue, call Mark Shearer at (515) 281-5798.



PATTY JUDGE

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What's next for IVRRT training —

Incident Command, NIMS certification

The response to Hurricane Katrina demonstrated how critical it is that all response agencies understand and be capable of working together. That's what the Incident Command System is all about.

To continue receiving Homeland Security funds, all

responders and state agencies are required have Incident Command System (ICS) and National Incident Management System (NIMS) training.

CDs of the ICS 100, 200 and NIMS are in the June curriculum notebook (green USDA labels). All members will re-

ceive notebooks within a few weeks. (See "Care package" on page 3.)

Take the post test on-line, and receive a certificate from Homeland Security. Send in a copy of your certificate to verify this is done.

Deadline: June 30, 2006.



June training to prepare —

Major FAD exercise in September, 2006

We have been given the gift of time to prepare for a large scale foreign animal disease. How we use that time will determine our future ability to meet a challenge that will test our capabilities, our resources and our patience.

To help us prepare, a state-wide functional foreign animal disease exercise is scheduled this coming September. This will be a coordinated exercise with our major response partners—Homeland Security, DNR, USDA, county emergency management, Extension, and other agencies.

IVRRT members will also be involved in this exercise.

Planners expect one farm in

each district of Iowa will be designated as an “infected premise.” Mock quarantine zones, stop movement orders, and other disease control measures will be tested at the local, state and federal levels.

Local and state emergency operations centers will be activated. Communications and deployment plans will be used to verify we can reach IVRRT teams and move them where needed.

To prepare for this event, the Department of Agriculture will

IVRRT will meet in June to prepare for the September exercise

begin a series of tabletop exercises in February and March to orient agency personnel.

IVRRT will hold a training and tabletop exercise session in June, 2006, to review plans and prepare for the September exercise. Information will follow when the date and venue are confirmed.

IVRRT members can prepare for the exercise by taking the on-line ICS and NIMS training mentioned on pages 1 and 3 of this newsletter.

By completing this training by June 30, IVRRT will beat the federal compliance deadline. This training will also prepare members to participate in the September exercise.

IVRRT website is developing

New members can get an application form at the IVRRT website

IVRRT now has a presence on the Iowa Department of Agriculture website. The site will help members find information and training resources.

In the near future, members will receive a login and password. The secure portion of the website will contain contact and deployment information. When deployed, it will keep

members updated on operations in the field.

The site is also designed to promote IVRRT and the Center for Agriculture Security. New members can click the “Membership Form” link, print and mail or fax in their information to join the team.

Eventually, the site will have updated announcements on

training, exercises and events.

Your input about content would be helpful. Contact Mark or Jane at the Center for Agriculture Security with your suggestions.

The site is:
www.agriculture.state.ia.us

Click on the Center for Agriculture Security link, then the IVRRT logo on the right side.

Speaking of websites —

Interesting links for agriculture responders

Iowa State’s Center for Food Security and Public Health has a wealth of information...
www.cfsph.iastate.edu/

CFSPH hosts the IVRRT and USDA veterinary training modules. You must register for a user ID and password, and make sure your computer will accept pop-ups (note the https: address)...

<https://www.cfsph.iastate.edu/ce/>

The bible for foreign animal disease response continues to be “The Gray Book...”

www.vet.uga.edu/vpp/gray_book/index.htm

If you’re interested in a chronology of recent

history of agroterrorism, check this out...

<http://cns.missouri.edu/research/cbw/agchron.htm>

Purdue University published the following paper on preparing for agroterrorism following 9/11...

www.ces.purdue.edu/eden/disasters/agro/Agroterrorism.doc

The following USDA website contains weekly disease monitoring and surveillance data...

www.aphis.usda.gov/vs/ceah/ncas/index.htm

There are hundreds of informative websites, and we’ll share a few with each newsletter. Contact Mark with your favorite sites and we’ll share them.

Progress in 2004-05

IVRRT owes its existence to Iowa's local emergency management agencies. These groups agreed to give a generous portion of their federal Homeland Security dollars to fund projects like IVRRT, the Urban Search and Rescue Team, HAZMAT, and SWAT.

Accomplishments during the first grant period include two training sessions, purchase of euthanasia equipment, distance learning video system, radio communications, and supplies such as "Disease Control Area" signs to be used when IVRRT is deployed.

A database of members, resources and deployment data has been collected.

The Center for Agriculture Security and IVRRT are working together with numerous local, state and national agencies in response planning.

Besides the partnership with Iowa State University's Center for Food Security and Public Health, our team has worked with Kirkwood Community College to develop national agricultural response training for first responders.

Iowa is considered a leader among states that have veterinary response organizations.

Even though our next program budget is 75% less than our first grant, IVRRT will concentrate on sustaining and

growing the team from its current level of 280 members.

Besides curriculum and training materials for the team, the largest budget item for 2005 was communications. A new radio system was purchased that is compatible with other state, local and federal response partners.

The "interoperable" radio network will allow responders to talk to the state veterinarian, local emergency management, law enforcement, fire and HAZMAT volunteers. If we face multiple incidents across the state, we can communicate with all response teams from the operations centers in Des Moines.



Care package —

Coming soon to your front door

Over 200 IVRRT members have attended one or both of the training sessions held in 2005. Those who did not attend one or both sessions will soon receive the curriculum notebooks and a DVD from the June orientation session (Training I).

Members who did not attend in June will also receive the

ISU / CFSPH publication "Emerging and Exotic Diseases of Animals."

The second order of shirts has arrived, so members who missed the September Training II will receive their IVRRT shirt in the care package.

Labels for the notebook spines will be sent to those who already have their curriculum.

The labels identify the contents of each notebook for easy reference.

Any member who does not have the Incident Command CDs in the Training I notebook should contact Mark Shearer.

Members can also find ICS courses online. Use the FEMA virtual campus link from the box at the right... →

Link to FEMA ICS Training:

[www.training.fema.gov/
EMIWeb/IS/is100.asp](http://www.training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/IS/is100.asp)

On the left side under
"Quick Links" click on:
"NETC Virtual Campus"